



# *COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA*

## *Department for the Aging*

Jay W. DeBoer, J.D., Commissioner

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**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA**  
*Department for the Aging*  
 Jay W. DeBoer, J.D., Commissioner

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Executive Directors Area Agencies on Aging  
 Aging Information & Referral Assistance Specialists  
 VICAP Coordinators

**FROM:** Faye Cates, MSSW, Human Services Program Coordinator  
 and E. Janet Riddick, Director, Center for Elder Rights

**DATE:** December 21, 2004

**SUBJECT: LONG-TERM CARE AWARENESS CAMPAIGN CONFERENCE CALL  
 TRAINING MATERIALS**

Materials are now on the VDA web site for the December 29, 2004, Long-Term Care Awareness Campaign conference call training, scheduled for 10:00 a.m. Please refer to the December 14, 2004, Tuesday Mailing # 05-37 which announced the training and provided background information. All staff participating in the conference call can download the training materials as follows:

- Go to the VDA web site: [www.vda.virginia.gov](http://www.vda.virginia.gov)
- Click on "Publications" at the bottom of the screen.
- Next screen click on "Subject."
- Go to "Long-Term Care"
- Download the following documents:  
 "Long-Term Care Awareness Campaign Flyer"  
 "Long-Term Care Awareness Campaign Financial Planning"  
 "Own Your Future – A Planning Guide To Long-Term Care"

**PARTICIPANT ACCESS INFORMATION**

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**AUDIO PARTICIPANT ACCESS**

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CALL DATE: DEC-29-2004 (Wednesday)  
 CALL TIME: 10:00 AM EASTERN TIME  
 DURATION: 1 hr

**USA Toll Free Number: 888-325-0344**

**PASSCODE: 10432**

1610 Forest Avenue, Suite 100, Richmond, Virginia 23229  
 Toll-Free: 1-800-552-3402 (Voice/TTY) • Phone: 804-662-9333 • Fax: 804-662-9354  
 E-mail: [aging@vda.virginia.gov](mailto:aging@vda.virginia.gov) • Web Site: [www.vda.virginia.gov](http://www.vda.virginia.gov)

*COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA*  
*Department for the Aging*  
Jay W. DeBoer, J.D., Commissioner

December 21, 2004

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Executive Directors  
Area Agencies on Aging

**FROM:** Tim M. Catherman  
Deputy Commissioner, Support Services

**RE:** Personnel Hiring: Guardianship and Legal Services Development  
Coordinator

I am pleased to announce the Virginia Department for the Aging has selected Janet Dingle Brown as the new Guardianship and Legal Services Development Coordinator. Ms. Brown is familiar with the guardianship program and an advocate for the needs of the elderly. She is currently a staff attorney with the Virginia Poverty Law Center. Prior to this Ms. Brown has worked in private practice and at the Central Virginia Legal Aid Society. Ms. Brown earned her Law Degree from the TC Williams School of Law at the University of Richmond.

Ms. Brown will join the staff on Monday, January 3, 2005. Her office will be next to Janet Riddick's office. The telephone number is (804) 662-7049.

Please join me in welcoming Janet Dingle Brown to the Department.

If you have any questions, please call me.

Cc: Jay W. DeBoer, J.D., Commissioner

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*Department for the Aging*  
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**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Executive Directors  
Area Agencies on Aging

**FROM:** Tim M. Catherman  
Deputy Commissioner, Support Services

**DATE:** December 21, 2004

**SUBJECT:** MEOC Receives Federal Transit Administrator's Award and recognized by  
Transit and SeniorNavigator

Congratulations to MEOC for receiving a *2004 Federal Transit Administrator's Award for Outstanding Public Service* and for *Compass Rose Beacon of Light Award* from SeniorNavigator. Attached are the press release articles.

November 20, 2004

For Immediate Release  
Contact Marilyn Pace Maxwell  
Executive Director

Mountain Empire Older Citizens, Inc. was chosen from a national pool of nominees by the Federal Transit Administration to receive the *2004 Federal Transit Administrator's Award for Outstanding Public Service*. The award, presented by Lynn Sahaj, Deputy Administrator, FTA, was given during the 16<sup>th</sup> National Rural Public and Intercity Bus Conference held October 25<sup>th</sup> at the Hotel Roanoke.

Deputy Sahaj recognized Mountain Empire Older Citizens' commitment to creativity, innovation and use of multiple funding sources for successfully enhancing the mobility of rural residents through coordination of all types of transportation and for its longevity in providing transportation services. MEOC is in its 30<sup>th</sup> year of providing transportation to Lee, Wise and Scott Counties and the City of Norton.

In accepting the award on behalf of MEOC, Executive Director Marilyn Maxwell said, "We are so grateful to our many partners over the years for making this award possible." She continued on to publicly thank the Department of Rail and Public Transportation, the Virginia Department for the Aging, current Commonwealth Transportation Board member Jim Brown of Bristol and former board member Sonny Martin of Lee County for their help and commitment to rural transportation over the years MEOC has operated. "The goal is and always has been to provide mobility to those who need it to encourage and allow full participation in community life by everyone," she added.

Michael Henson, Transit Director, concluded with an extensive "Best Practices" presentation listing the ingredients necessary to provide transportation services in a rural, mountainous area. MEOC Transportation provides trips to and from senior nutrition/wellness sites, community group respite centers, medical appointments and shopping trips as well as numerous shuttles for community events throughout the year.

To contact Mountain Empire Older Citizens, Inc. Transportation program call 1-888-877-6748.

## **SeniorNavigator Honors MEOC With Compass Rose Beacon of Light Award**

Mountain Empire Older Citizens, Inc. was pleased to be one of five organizations recognized by SeniorNavigator for their excellence in serving the community. MEOC was recently named the recipient of a 2004 SeniorNavigator Compass Rose Beacon of Light Award.

Individuals from SeniorNavigator centers across the Commonwealth gathered on November 3<sup>rd</sup> at John Randolph Foundation in Hopewell, Virginia, for a roundtable discussion, luncheon and awards presentation. Keynote speaker for the day's events was Dr. Richard Lindsay, Geriatrician from the University of Virginia.

In recognizing MEOC, SeniorNavigator representatives described the local area agency on aging as providing steady guidance and serving as a source of hope for seniors and caregivers. Accepting the award on behalf of MEOC were Kim Gibson, Leigh Ann Kennedy and Judy Miller.

"SeniorNavigator's mission is one that we have embraced and firmly support. We are so very pleased and truly honored to have been named a recipient of a Beacon of Light Award," said Marilyn Pace Maxwell, MEOC Executive Director.

SeniorNavigator centers make it possible for all Virginians to locate the health and aging resources they need regardless of income or locality. Specifically designed for those without a home computer, all of the 193 centers have trained staff who use the SeniorNavigator website to assist seniors and caregivers in obtaining information. MEOC serves as a SeniorNavigator Center. The center gives local residents the opportunity use computers located in the MEOC office in Big Stone Gap to visit the SeniorNavigator website.

"Often those in a caregiving crisis don't know where to start or even what questions to ask. As a SeniorNavigator Center, we use the website to search for location services that can provide them the support they so desperately need," Maxwell said "We are pleased to be associated with SeniorNavigator as it enables us to reach out and expand our ability to serve seniors, their families and caregivers by providing valuable information,"

The SeniorNavigator non-profit website, [www.seniornavigator.com](http://www.seniornavigator.com), features more than 18,500 resources that address health and aging issues, financial concerns, legal questions, housing and assisted living facilities and more. Additionally, there are hundreds of up-to-date articles and more than 2,000 links to other aging support websites.

To learn more about SeniorNavigator, please visit [www.seniornavigator.com](http://www.seniornavigator.com) or call toll-free 1-866-393-0957.